



Staff Liaison

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AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION

Monday, March 25, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

El Cerrito City Council Chambers
10890 San Pablo Avenue
El Cerrito, CA 94530

The City encourages submission of written comments in advance to the Arts and Culture Commission via email to luang@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us prior to the meeting or by contacting the staff liaison listed above.

7:00 p.m. CONVENE REGULAR MEETING

- 1. ROLL CALL** – Chair Courtney Helion; Vice Chair Audrey Faine, Members: Renee LeVesque, Kim Settles
- 2. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS, COUNCIL LIAISON AND STAFF LIAISON REPORTS**
- 3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**
Remarks are typically limited to three minutes per person and may be on anything within the subject matter jurisdiction of the body. Remarks on non-agenda items will be heard first; remarks on agenda items will be heard at the time the item is discussed.
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
Consider approval of the minutes of the February 26, 2024 meeting. (Attachment)
- 5. COMMISSIONER INTRODUCTIONS**
Commissioners will have the opportunity to introduce themselves, discuss their background and interests, and what they hope to accomplish while serving on the Arts & Culture Commission.
- 6. ACC/PUBLIC ART FUND BUDGET UPDATE**
Hear a presentation from City Staff, providing an update on the Public Art Fund and the ACC's anticipated expenses in Fiscal Year 2023-2024.
(Attachment)
- 7. CITY HALL GALLERY SPACE EXPENSES**
Consider a motion to approve expenses not to exceed \$1,000 in 2024, to provide staff support for City Hall Gallery show receptions to occur outside of City Hall's regular hours of operation.
- 8. WORKPLAN IMPLEMENTATION**
Review the Arts & Culture Commission Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Work Plan and discuss next steps for implementation.
(Attachment)

9. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

10. ADJOURNMENT

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Staff Liaison Will Provost at (510) 215-4318. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title I).

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the members regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at www.el-cerrito.org/acc.

**DRAFT MINUTES****REGULAR MEETING OF THE
ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION****Staff Liaison**

Alexandra Orologas | 510-215-4302

aorologas@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us**Monday, February 26, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.**El Cerrito City Council Chambers
10890 San Pablo Avenue
El Cerrito, CA 94530

The City encourages submission of written comments in advance to the Arts and Culture Commission via email to lhuanag@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us prior to the meeting or by contacting the staff liaison listed above.

1. **ROLL CALL** –Chair Courtney Helion called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
Present: Chair Helion; Vice Chair Audrey Faine; Members: George Gager, Patrick Sean Taylor **Absent:** Members Adam Levenson (excused), Jeff Roberts, and Andrew Ting.

2. **COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS, COUNCIL LIAISON AND STAFF LIAISON REPORTS**

Member Gager announced his resignation from the Commission and expressed his desire to continue volunteering for the Commission when possible.

Council Liaison Motoyama reported on upcoming council meeting agenda items including the mid-year budget review, the completion of the classification and compensation study, and the Climate Action Plan. Additionally, she announced the upcoming pickleball court construction.

Staff Liaison Orologas thanked Member Gager for his many years of service on the Commission. She announced the appointment of two new members starting on March 1st and the resignation of Members Levenson and Taylor at the end of their term. She thanked Member Taylor for his contributions.

She reported on the upcoming events and the return of Gallery Space Exhibitions and introduced the new Arts and Culture Commission Staff Liaison, Will Provost.

3. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Buddy Akacić – expressed his gratitude for Member Gager's service and displayed a crocheted blanket created by El Cerrito artist, Sylvia Mori, using yarn that was previously donated by Member Gager.

Steve Lipson – expressed his desire to collaborate with the Commission and to showcase creations by older adults using A.I. in the City Hall Gallery Space.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Moved/Seconded: Vice Chair Faine/Member Taylor **Action:** Motion to approve January 22, 2024 meeting minutes. **Ayes:** Chair Helion; Vice Chair Faine; Members Gager and Taylor. **Noes:** None. **Absent:** Members Levenson, Roberts, and Ting. Motion approved.

5. **POET LAUREATE RECOMMENDATION**

Moved/Seconded: Chair Helion/Member Taylor **Action:** Motion to approve Selection Panel's recommendation to appoint Tess Taylor for El Cerrito Poet Laureate for a one-year period April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025, with a total stipend of \$2,000. **Ayes:** Chair Helion; Vice Chair Faine; Members Gager and Taylor. **Noes:** None. **Absent:** Members Levenson, Roberts, and Ting. Motion approved.

6. **EL CERRITO CREATIVE RE-USE (ECCRU) ARTIST IN RESIDENCY RECOMMENDATION**

Moved/Seconded: Member Taylor/Member Gager **Action:** Motion to approve Selection Panel's recommendation to appoint Zona Sage and Lisa Zimmer-Chu for the El Cerrito ECCRU Artist in Residency for the nine-month period April 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024, with a total stipend for each appointment in the amount of \$1,500. **Ayes:** Chair Helion; Vice Chair Faine; Members Gager and Taylor. **Noes:** None. **Absent:** Members Levenson, Roberts, and Ting. Motion approved.

7. **WORKPLAN**

Moved/Seconded: Chair Helion/Vice Chair Faine **Action:** Motion to approve the Commission's draft workplan for fiscal year (FY) 2023-2024. **Ayes:** Chair Helion; Vice Chair Faine; Members Gager and Taylor. **Noes:** None. **Absent:** Members Levenson, Roberts, and Ting. Motion approved.

8. **ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

Staff Liaison Orologas noted upcoming items including the Pavement Art Project, a mural presentation from the developer of 1711 Eastshore Blvd., and a discussion around workplan implementation.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Courtney Helion, Chair

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Arts and Culture Commission meeting of February 26, 2024, as approved by the Arts and Culture Commission.

Alexandra Orologas, Staff Liaison

ACC Budget Update

Starting Balance 6/30/23

- Public Art Fund (213) - \$157,133

Anticipated Revenue in FY24

- Interest Income - \$1,500

Current Annual Planned/Budgeted Expenses

- ECCRU - \$3,000
- Poet Laureate - \$2,000
- Mini-Grants - \$3,000
- Pavement Art - \$5,000
- 4th of July Support - \$10,000
- Utility Box Art - \$4,000
- Gallery Space - \$1,000

Total: \$28,000



Public Art Fund

The Art in Public Places ordinance established the Art in Public Places Program. (ECMC Section 13.50.030)

Known as “1% for Public Art”

- private and municipal developments with development costs of two hundred fifty thousand dollars or more shall devote an amount not less than one percent of such costs for acquisition and installation of public art on the development site, up to one hundred fifty thousand dollars. In lieu of acquisition and installation of public art on the development site, an owner or developer, at its discretion, may make an equal in-lieu contribution to the City’s Public Art Fund.

The program applies to:

- commercial, industrial and municipal projects, and residential projects that create five or more residential units
- An existing building that is remodeled with a construction value equal to or more than fifty percent of the replacement cost of the building





FISCAL YEAR (2023-2024) WORK PLAN

AND (2022-2023) ACCOMPLISHMENTS

ARTS & CULTURE COMMISSION

Staff Liaison

Alexandra Orologas | 510-215-4302
aorologas@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us

Chair Courtney Helion; Vice-Chair Audrey Faine; Members George Gager, Adam Levenson, Jeff Roberts, Patrick Taylor, and Andrew Ting

MISSION STATEMENT: to advise the City Council of the needs of the artistic and cultural community; encourage and promote arts programs and events that engage community members and local businesses to build a flourishing and vibrant arts and cultural environment; provide advice to artists and arts/cultural organizations by sponsoring forums, programs, and events; carry out the Arts in Public Places program, and upon request, advise the City with respect to possible sources of funding.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: The Art and Culture Commission (ACC) consists of seven members who demonstrate a commitment to various arts disciplines, including but not limited to fine arts, visual arts, performing arts, literary arts, art history, and arts education. The ACC is charged with oversight of the Arts in Public Places Program, which requires certain development projects to contribute 1% of construction costs to public art, and is responsible for acquisition, funding, and placement of public art in the City on public property. The ACC also juries the City Hall Gallery Space, located on the second floor of City Hall at 10890 San Pablo Avenue.

History as described in 2017-18 Workplan: In 2002, a group of citizens petitioned the El Cerrito City Council to establish an arts and culture commission. Their proposal included the idea of advising the Council on arts and culture within the City and collaboration with existing organizations within the community: “By establishing an art and culture commission the City of El Cerrito would be providing support and encouragement for the growth of all arts. We would be joining the greater Bay Area in dedicating our time and involvement to the promotion of arts, artists and varied arts programs that would enrich our community and enhance our city.”

In 2003, the City Council created the Arts and Culture Commission (ACC), a seven-member advisory body. In addition to advising the City Council, they are charged with oversight of the Arts in Public Places Program and jury the City Hall Gallery Space. In 2013, the Commission adopted an Arts and Culture Master Plan to shape a vision for arts and culture in the City of El Cerrito.

FISCAL YEAR (2023-2024) WORK PLAN

	Goal/Objective	Proposed Activities	Priority Ranking	Timeline For Completion
1.	Maintain Arts & Culture Signature Programs	Poet Laureate, ECCRU Artist in Residency, 4 th of July/worldOne Festival, Utility Boxes.	1	Ongoing
2.	Increase Access/Inclusivity to Public Art in the Community	City Hall Gallery Space Call for Artists/Program, El Cerrito Art Organizations and Venues Database, Scholarships for arts classes/programming. Focus on promoting Mini-Grant Program.	2	Ongoing
3.	Leverage Partnerships with Other Organizations	Partnering with schools, library, community organizations and non-profits on community events/projects such as Messy Art Day, Free Folk Festival, EC Art Association Art Show, etc.	3	Ongoing
4.	Supporting the Local Artistic and Cultural Community	Events (Art/Music/Food/Culture), Gallery Space, Database, Sponsorship of 4 th of July/worldOne Festival, October Arts Month, etc.	4	Ongoing
5.	Beautify El Cerrito	Utility Box Public Art Program, Pilot Bike Art Program	5	Ongoing

PRIOR YEAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS – FY 2022-23

	Goal/Objective	Activities Supporting Goal	Status
1.	Maintain Arts & Culture Signature Programs	Poet Laureate and ECCRU Artist Residency Programs, Provided Support for 4 th of July/worldOne Festival	Completed one (1) year extensions for Eevelyn Mitchell and Steve Zwetsch.
2.	Increase Access/Inclusivity to Public Art in the Community	Developed revised Mini Grant Program guidelines and application	Completed the revised documents to enhance participation in program and create clarity around program intent.
3.	Leverage Partnerships with Other Organizations	Sponsorship for Messy Art Day, Free Folk Festival, El Cerrito Art Association Show,	Mini Grant applications approved.

		Fairmont Elementary Peace Cranes for Ukraine Art Project and Gallery Space Showing	
4.	Supporting the Local Artistic and Cultural Community	4 th of July/worldOne Festival, Gallery Space Reception Event for ECCRU Artist In Residency	Events completed.
5.	Beautify El Cerrito	Utility Box Public Art Program	Completed art on three utility boxes in 2022, issued CFA for 2023 program.